



503.35255V14

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): K. AOTA, et al.

Appln. No. 10/600,572

Filed: June 23, 2003

For: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD OF OPPOSITE SIDES OF PANELS

Group: 3635

Examiner: B. Katcheves

**TERMINAL DISCLAIMER**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 20, 2004

Sir:

Petitioner, Hitachi, Ltd., having its place of business at 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Marunouchi Center Building 6-1, Marunouchi 1-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8220, Japan, represents that it is the sole owner of the entire interest of U.S. Application No. 10/600,572, filed June 23, 2003, for FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD OF OPPOSITE SIDES OF PANELS, by virtue of an Assignment of all rights in connection therewith, a copy of this Assignment being enclosed herewith.

Petitioner hereby disclaims all that portion of the term of any patent to be issued on the above-identified application subsequent to the expiration date of the full statutory term, defined in 35 U.S.C. §154 to §156 and §173, of U.S. Patent No. 6,619,534, issued September 16, 2003, and hereby agrees that any patent issued on the above-identified application shall be enforceable only for and during

such time as the said U.S. Patent No. 6,619,534 and the above-identified application are commonly owned.

Petitioner, however, does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application prior to the expiration date of the full statutory term, defined in 35 U.S.C. § 154 to § 156 and § 173, of the above-listed U.S. Patent No. 6,619,534 in the event that U.S. Patent No. 6,619,534 expires: for failure to pay a maintenance fee; is held unenforceable; is found invalid, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 C.F.R. §1.321; has all claims cancelled by a reexamination certificate; is reissued; or is otherwise terminated prior to the expiration of the above-referred-to full statutory term, except for the separation of legal title as stated above.

This disclaimer is to be binding with respect to any patent granted on the above-identified application, and is binding upon grantees, their successors, or assignees of any interests.

The undersigned is an attorney of record in this application and is empowered to act on behalf of Hitachi, Ltd. for execution and submission of Terminal Disclaimers, in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.321(b) and (c), effective January 4, 1994.

The undersigned hereby declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code

and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

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